

298

K56j

1970

LIBRARY OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

298

K56 j

1970



The person charging this material is responsible for its return on or before the **Latest Date** stamped below.

Theft, mutilation and underlining of books are reasons for disciplinary action and may result in dismissal from the University.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

NOV 21 1975

NOV 21 1975

APR 16 1976

MAY 8 1976

MAY 1 1976


APR 23 1976

DEC 03 1982

DUE: 9-1-83

AUG 12 1983

APR 11 2001



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Alternates

# JOURNAL

OF

## HEBER C. KIMBALL

AN ELDER OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER  
DAY SAINTS.

GIVING AN ACCOUNT OF HIS MISSION TO GREAT  
BRITAIN, AND THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE  
WORK OF THE LORD IN THAT LAND.

ALSO

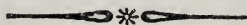
THE SUCCESS WHICH HAS ATTENDED THE  
LABORS OF THE ELDERS TO THE  
PRESENT TIME.

---

BY R. B. THOMPSON.

---

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature; he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved:" etc. Mark 16: 15 16.



NAUVOO, ILL:

PRINTED BY ROBINSON AND SMITH.

.....

1840.

It  
rec  
that  
this  
Cher  
that  
in th  
ed b  
read  
in th  
Far  
lisho  
the F  
arden  
thos  
resid  
secto  
ditio  
delay  
flight  
yet  
and  
to h  
disto  
A  
C. B  
and  
the c  
of in  
has i  
gene  
ball,  
who



## PREFACE.

It is well known to the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, as well as to the community in general; that the labors of the Elders have not been confined to this continent, but that the sound of the gospel of Jesus Christ has been heard upon the Islands of the sea; and that in Great Britain, numbers have heard, and rejoiced in the same. Some communications have been published by the Elders who have visited that land, which were read with deep interest by the Saints, who were informed in the last number of the "Elders' Journal," published in Far West, Mo., that a pamphlet was intended to be published, giving a detail of all the principal transactions of the Elders, while in that land; which publication was ardently desired by the church, and more particularly by those who had formerly dwelt, and whose friends yet resided there. But on account of the unparalleled persecution which has taken place, and the scattered condition of the saints, the publication of the same has been delayed. Although the saints have endured a great flight of affliction, and have suffered a great many things, yet their desire for the prosperity of the cause of truth and righteousness is not at all abated; and their anxiety to hear of the labors of the servants of the Lord in a distant nation is probably as great as ever.

A belief that a perusal of the Journal of Elder Heber C. Kimball would be a source of comfort to the saints, and a cause of rejoicing to those who have had to drink the cup of sorrow and affliction, and likewise be a source of information and instruction to the saints generally, has induced me to publish the same to the world. The generality of the saints are acquainted with Elder Kimball, whose labor of love, and humility, is known by all who have had the pleasure of his acquaintance; while

his uniform conduct and humility, since he has been a member of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and while engaged in different offices, and in circumstances the most trying and painful, render it superfluous for me to attempt to pass any eulogium on his character, and speak louder than volumes in his praise. My acquaintance with him commenced in the spring of A. D. 1837; while on a visit from Canada to Kirtland. Feeling a deep interest in the mission which was about to be taken to my native country, I cultivated an acquaintance with all those who were going there: and it was no small gratification to me when I learned that brother Kimball was to have the superintendence of that mission. A scene which I witnessed while in Kirtland I cannot refrain from relating.

While on a visit to Kirtland to see those brethren, who had been the instruments in the hands of God in bringing forth the work of the Lord and establishing his kingdom in these last days; I felt very much delighted and instructed by their conversation, and in hearing from their own lips, an account of the great things which they had seen and heard. The temple of the Lord likewise attracted my observation; it being too glorious a structure to escape notice. My feelings at that time were of no ordinary kind, while I contemplated the commencement of the work, and the opening glories which had already appeared; which were to be followed by events the most stupendous and glorious that had taken place, since the creation. The idea of conversing with a man who had the ministering of angels, and the revelations of heaven, and with those his companions, who with him had borne up under afflictions and persecutions of the most aggravated nature, men who had not counted their lives dear for the testimony of Jesus, and for the word of God—of contemplating a house, built by the servants of God, while under circumstances the most unfavorable and unpropitious, according to the pattern they had re-



ceived by revelation—To see the assembly of the saints on the Sabbath, while worshipping the God of Heaven.—To hear their voices in praise and thanksgiving—The order of the house while thus engaged; all conspired to raise my mind, and cause gratitude and praise to my Heavenly Father, while feelings of joy and rapture thrilled through my bosom. Surely my heart rejoiced in God, and I praised his holy name, for remembering his covenant, visiting his people and restoring the gospel in all its purity.

I there cultivated an acquaintance with many of the saints, which I hope will be lasting; whose labors in the cause of truth had been incessant, and whose sufferings for Christ's sake had been great. The day set for the departure of the Elders to England being come, as I was passing by the house of Brother Kimball, I stepped in, wishing to ascertain when he would be ready to start, as I expected to accompany them two or three hundred miles; intending to spend my labors in Canada that season. I unconsciously entered the house, the door being partly open. When I entered, I felt struck with the sight which presented itself to my view, I would have retired, thinking that I was intruding, but I felt rivetted to the spot.—The father who was appointed to superintend the mission to England, had been pouring out his soul to that

“God who rules on high,  
Who all the earth surveys;  
That rides upon the stormy skies,  
And calm's the roaring seas,”

that he would grant him a prosperous voyage across the mighty ocean, and make him useful wherever his lot should be cast, and that He who “careth for sparrows” and “feedeth the young ravens when they cry,” would supply the wants of his companion and little ones in his absence. He then like the patriarchs, and by virtue of that office, laid his hands upon them, individually, leaving

a father's blessing upon, and commending them to the care and protection of God, while he should be engaged in preaching the gospel in distant lands. While thus engaged, his voice was almost lost in the sobs of those around, who tried in vain to suppress them. The idea of losing a protector and a father was indeed painful. He proceeded, but his heart was too much affected to do so regularly; his emotions were great, yea, unutterable; and he was obliged to stop at intervals, while the big tears started down his cheeks—an index to the feelings which reigned in his bosom. I was not stoic enough to refrain, but in spite of myself I wept, and mingled my tears with theirs; at the same time, I felt thankful, that I had the privilege of contemplating such a scene. Nothing, thought I, could induce that man to tear himself from so affectionate a group, from his partner and children who are so dear to him—nothing but a sense of duty and love to God, and attachment to his cause. I prayed that the Lord would bless the labours of his servant, give him a prosperous voyage, make him a blessing in my native land, by bringing many into the Kingdom of Christ—that he would be merciful to his family; and when it was wisdom in God that he should return, that he might be brought home in safety, and rejoice with his beloved family in recounting the mercies of the Lord.

This the Lord has done in a remarkable manner, and but few, if any, have been as successful as Brother Kimball. Yet we do not find him boasting in his own strength; No, he knows that it is the Lord's doings, and that he was only an instrument in his hands. Notwithstanding the great success which has attended the labors of this servants of the Lord, the same humility characterizes him, for which he has been so frequently admired.

The Elders of Israel would do well to copy the example, and I hope they will be able to receive some instructions from a perusal of this work, particularly those,

who may visit Great Britain, which may be of some value to them. One great cause of his usefulness was, that he attended closely to the commandments of heaven, and preached the Gospel in its simplicity, and plainness; without intermeddling with many abstruse and dark passages, which are only a source of speculation, and tend to strife rather than salvation.

It undoubtedly would be pleasing to the Elders who return from distant lands, to visit their families and friends, to enjoy the blessings of peace; but this has been denied our Brother, for, after a hard and laborious mission, and after enduring great fatigue in travelling, and his body broken down by sickness; he in common with the saints, had to be driven from his home, and be subject to all the hardships and trials consequent on a removal in the depth of winter from the State of Missouri. Yet none of these things have moved him, for no sooner was his family in a place of safety and amongst the saints, than he prepared for another mission, and with the rest of the Twelve, takes his journey to the scene of his former labors.

The success which has attended the ministry of the Elders in England and Scotland, is certainly encouraging, and hardly has its parallel in the history of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Although it has been principally received by the poor, who have flocked to hear the tidings of salvation, like doves to the windows; yet there are some men of wealth and influence, who have embraced the gospel with all their hearts, and who rejoice in its precious truths.

The information received from the Twelve, and other Elders who are yet in that land, is of the most cheering character. A circumstantial, account of which, will be found at the end of the journal.

From what has been already accomplished, the saints can look forward with assurance, that the purposes of

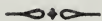
the Almighty will be accomplished, and that the streams of knowledge shall flow throughout the world, at which every honest heart shall drink and satiate themselves, until the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the face of the deep.

“When at first the work began,  
Small and feeble was its day:  
Now the word doth sweetly run,  
Now it wins its widening way:  
More and more it spreads and grows  
Ever mighty to prevail,  
Sin’s strong holds it now o’erthrows,  
Shakes the trembling gates of hell.”

ROBERT B. THOMPSON.



## JOURNAL.



The labors of the Elders of the Church of Latter Day Saints having been confined to the United States of America, with the exception of the Province of Upper Canada, where a great many persons embraced the gospel of Jesus Christ, and rejoiced in the blessings thereof; the majority of whom were originally from Great Britain, soon after which, they began to manifest a desire that their relatives and friends who were still residing there, might be privileged with hearing the glad tidings of Salvation, and be made partakers of those gifts and blessings which are promised in obedience thereto For the attainment of which object, their prayers were continually ascending to the Lord of Sabaoth, that he would prepare the way, and hasten the time,

“When—the servants of the Lord  
Soon should take their stand,  
And spread the glorious light of truth,  
Throughout their native land.”

Notwithstanding this desire, the way was not open for the Elders until the spring of 1837, when the word of the Lord to the Elders of Israel was; that they might go forth to the distant nations of the earth, that the Kingdom might roll forth, so that every heart might be penetrated.

Prior to this, my labors had been confined to my own land in which, I had travelled about, six thousand miles, preaching the gospel to the best of my ability; and had the pleasure of baptizing several of my countrymen for the remission of sins, and introducing them into the kingdom which the Lord has set up in these last days.

I had frequently felt a desire to visit the shores of Europe, and believed that the time was fast hastened when I should take leave of my own country and lift up my voice to other nations, and warn them of the things which were coming on the earth, and make known to them the great things which the Lord had brought to pass; Yet, it never occurred to my mind, that I should be one of the first, commissioned to preach the everlasting gos-

pel on the shores of Europe, and I can assure my friends, I was taken by surprise, when I was informed by Brother Hyrum Smith, one of the Presidency of the church, that I had been designated by the spirit, and at a conference of the authorities of the church, which had been held, was appointed to take the charge of a mission to the kingdom of Great Britain. The idea of being appointed to such an important office and mission, was almost more than I could bear up under; I felt my weakness and unworthiness, and was nearly ready to sink under the task which devolved upon me, and I could not help exclaiming: O Lord I am a man of "stammering tongue" and altogether unfit for such a work. How can I go to preach in that land, which is so famed throughout christendom, for light, knowledge, and piety, and the nursery of religion; and to a people, whose intelligence is proverbial. Again, the idea of leaving my family for so long a time, which a mission to that country must necessarily require—of being separated from my friends whom I loved, and with whom I had enjoyed many blessings, and happy seasons—of leaving my native land to sojourn among strangers in a strange land, was almost overwhelming.

However, all these considerations did not deter me from the path of duty; neither did I confer with flesh and blood; but the moment I understood the will of my heavenly Father; I felt a determination to go at all hazards, believing that he would support me by his Almighty power; and endow me with every qualification I needed. And although my family were dear to me, and I should have to leave them almost destitute; yet I felt that the cause of truth, the gospel of Christ outweighed every other consideration; and I felt willing to leave them; believing that their wants would be provided for, by that God, who "taketh care of sparrows" and who "feedeth the young ravens when they cry." I was then set apart along with Elder Hyde who was likewise appointed to that mission, by the laying on of the hands of the Presidency; who likewise agreed, that Elders Goodson, Russel, Richards, Fielding and Snider should accompany us.

After spending a few days in arranging my affairs, and settling my business; on the thirteenth day of June, A. D. 1837, I bade adieu to my family and friends; and



the town of Kirtland where the House of the Lord stands, in which I had received my anointing, and had seen such glorious displays of the power and glory of God; and in company with Elder Hyde and the other brethren, arrived at Fairport on Lake Erie that afternoon, a distance of 12 miles; and about an hour after our arrival, took passage in a Steam Boat for Buffalo, New York. We were accompanied by brother R. B. Thompson and wife who were on their way to Canada, from Kirtland, where he intended to labor in the ministry in that Province. After a pleasant voyage we reached Buffalo the next day; at which place we expected to have got some funds which were promised us, to assist us on our journey; but were unfortunately disappointed. At that time we had but very little means, but still we determined to prosecute our journey, believing that the Lord would open out our way. We accordingly continued our journey, and took our passage in a line boat on the Erie Canal to Utica, a distance of 250 miles. From thence to Albany, on the Rail Road. From which place I went with Brother Richards into the country about 30 miles, where we were successful in obtaining some means to enable us to prosecute our journey. We then returned and took passage in a Steam Boat for New York, at which place we arrived on the 22 day of June.

On our arrival we met with Brother Goodson and Snider, according to appointment (they having been round by the way of Canada) all in good health.

When we arrived at New York, we found a vessel ready to sail, but not having sufficient means we were obliged to wait until such times as we could obtain funds to pay our passage and buy vituals for the voyage. We rented a small room, in a Store house, hoping that some way would be provided for us, to go forward and fulfil the mission whereunto we were sent. We spent considerable time while we were there, in prayer to our heavenly Father, for his guidance and protection—that he would make our way plain before us—bless us with a prosperous voyage across the billows of the mighty ocean, make us a blessing to each other and to the Captain and crew, with whom we should sail. During our stay in that city, we were subject to many, inconveniences, had to lay upon the floor, and had to buy and

cook our own victuals; yet none of these things moved us neither did we feel discouraged, believing that the Lord would open our way, and guide us to our destination. We conversed with many persons on the subject of the gospel, and distributed a large number of "Prophetic Warning's" amongst all classes of the community; not forgetting the ministers of religion who abound in that city. We sent a copy to every one whose name we could ascertain, through the medium of the Post office.

After remaining a few days, we were presented with sixty dollars to assist us; Brother Elijah Fordham likewise, made us a present of ten dollars and concluded on accompanying us on our mission, but upon more mature consideration, we thought it was best for him to stop in that place, believing that the Lord had a people in that city, and that a church would be built up; which, has since been done by the instrumentality of Elders Parley P. and Orson Pratt. Having obtained as much money as would pay our passages across the Atlantic, we laid in a stock of provisions, and on the first day of July went on board the ship Garrick, bound for Liverpool, and weighed anchor about ten o'clock A. M., and about four o'clock P. M. of the same day, lost sight of my native land, I had feelings which I cannot describe, when, I could no longer behold its shores, and when I bade adieu to the land of my birth, which was fast receding; I felt to exclaim:

"Yes my native land I love thee:  
 All thy scenes I love them well:  
 Friends, connexions, happy country,  
 Can I bid you all farewell?  
     Can I leave you  
 Far in distant lands to dwell?"

However, when I reflected on the causes, which had induced me to leave it for a while, and the work which devolved upon me I could likewise say,

"I go but not to plough the main,  
 To ease a restless mind."

No I hope I was actuated by a different motive than either to please myself, or to gain the riches and applause of the world; it was higher considerations than these that induced me to leave my home, it was, because a dispensation of the gospel had been committed to me,

and I felt an ardent desire that my fellow creatures in other lands as well as those of the land of my birth, might hear the sound of the everlasting gospel; obey its requisitions; rejoice in the fulness, and blessings thereof; and escape the judgements which were threatened upon the ungodly. Our passage was very agreeable, and the winds for the most part very favorable. On the banks of Newfoundland we saw several large fish nearly as long as our vessel, called by some, whales; and by others finners, also many different species of fish. We were kindly treated while on board, both by the officers and crew; and their conduct was indeed praiseworthy; had we been their own relatives, they could not have behaved more kind, or have treated us better. Thus the Lord answered our prayers in this respect, for which I desire to praise his holy name.

The Lord also gave us favor in the eyes of the passengers, who treated us with the greatest respect. During our voyage, a child belonging to one of the passengers was very sick, and was given up for death by the Doctor who attended it; consequently its parents had given up all hopes of its recovery, and expected to have to commit their little one to the ocean. Feeling a great anxiety for the child, I went to its parents and reasoned with, and laid before them the principle of faith; told them that the Lord was able to restore their child, notwithstanding there was no earthly prospect of its recovery; to which they listened with great interest. Having an opportunity shortly after, secretly to lay hands upon the child, I did so, and in the name of Jesus Christ, rebuked the disease which preyed upon its system; the spirit of the Lord attended the administration, and from that time the child began to recover, and two or three days after it was running about perfectly well. Its parents had to acknowledge that it was healed by the power of the Almighty.

Our health while on the water was good, with the exception of Brothers Fielding and Richards, who were sick a day or two. The last Sunday we were on the water, I went to the Captain and asked the privilege for one of us to preach on board, he very obligingly agreed, and appointed the time when it would be most suitable for himself and the crew to attend, which was at one o'clock



P. M. We then appointed Brother Hyde to speak, and then went and notified the crew and passengers of the circumstance. At the time appointed there was a congregation of from two to three hundred persons assembled on deck, who listened with great attention, and deep interest to the discourse, which was delivered with great power; I think I never heard Brother Hyde speak with such power and eloquence as at that time; he spoke on the subject of the resurrection. The time being limited on account of the duties of the ships company, his subject was necessarily condensed. The congregation was composed of persons from different nations, and of different faiths, English, Irish, Scotch, Germans, French, &c. &c., both Jews and Christians. A great feeling was produced upon the minds of the assembly, who had never heard the subject treated in like manner before: and from the conversation we afterwards had with several of them, believe that good was done, and many from that time began to search the scriptures for themselves, "which are able to make men wise unto salvation."

On the 15th, the Captain sent a man up to the mast head to look for land, and he had not been up long before he exclaimed land, which was the Irish shore, which caused joy and gratitude to arise in my bosom to my heavenly Father for the favorable passage we had had so far, and the prospect of soon reaching our destination.— We then sailed up the Irish channel; having Ireland on our left, and Wales on our right; the scenery was very beautiful and imposing.

Three days after first seeing land, being the 18th of July, we arrived in Liverpool, which is one of the largest ports in Great Britain; being just eighteen days and two hours from our departure from New York. The packet ship South America which left New York the same time we did, came in a few lengths behind. The sight was very grand to see these two vessels enter port, with every inch of canvass spread. When we first got sight of Liverpool, I went to the side of the vessel and poured out my soul in praise and thanksgiving to God for the prosperous voyage, and for all the mercies which he had vouchsafed to me, and while thus engaged, and while contemplating the scenery which then presented itself, and the circumstances which had brought me thus far; the spirit of the Lord rested upon

me in a powerful manner; my soul was filled with love and gratitude, and was humbled within me, while I covenanted to dedicate myself to God, and to love and serve him with all my heart.

Immediately after we anchored, a small boat came along side, and several of the passengers with Brothers Hyde, Richards, Goodson and myself got in and went on shore, when we were within six or seven feet from the pier, I leaped on shore, and for the first time in my life stood on British ground, among strangers, whose manners and customs were different from my own. My feelings at that time, were peculiar, particularly, when I realized the object, importance, and extent of my mission, and the work to which I had been appointed, and in which I was shortly to be engaged.

The idea of standing forth and proclaiming the Gospel in a land so much extolled for religion, and which was constantly sending forth her ministers to almost every nation under heaven; amongst a people who of course did not expect to be taught, but to teach others the principles of the gospel; and at the same time feeling my own weakness and unsuitness for such an undertaking, I was led to cry mightily to the Lord for wisdom and for that comfort and support which I so much needed. At the same time I thought, that if I could have been relieved from the responsibility which rested upon me, by fighting Goliath on as unequal terms as David did, I should have felt myself happy.

However I endeavored to put my trust in God, believing that he would assist me in publishing the truth, give me utterance, and that he would be a present help in the time of need. Having no means, poor and penniless we wandered in the streets of that great city, where wealth and luxury, penury and want abound. I there met the rich attired in the most costly dresses, and the next moment was saluted with the cries of the poor without covering sufficient to screen them from the weather; such a distinction I never saw before. We then looked out for a place to lodge in, and found a room, belonging to a widow which we engaged for a few days. The time we were in Liverpool was spent in council, and in calling on the Lord for direction, so that we might be led to places where we should be most useful in proclaiming the gospel, and in establishing, and spreading his king-

dom; while thus engaged, the spirit of the Lord, the mighty power of God was with us, and we felt greatly strengthened, and a determination to go forward, come life or death, honor or reproach, was manifest by us all. Our trust was in God, who, we believed could make us as useful in bringing down the kingdom of satan, as he did the rams horns, in bringing down the walls of Jerico; and in gathering out a number of precious souls, who were buried amidst the rubbish of tradition, and who had none to show them the way of truth.

Feeling led by the spirit of the Lord to go to Preston a large manufacturing town in Lancashire; we started for that place, three days after our arrival in Liverpool. We went by coach and arrived on Saturday afternoon about four o'clock. After unloading our trunks, Brother Goodson went in search of a place of lodging, and Brother Fielding went to seek a brother of his who was a minister residing in the place.

It being the day on which their representatives were chosen; the streets presented a very busy scene indeed. I never witnessed any thing like it in my life. Music playing, flags flying, thousands of men, women and children parading the streets, decked in ribbons, characteristic of the politics of the various candidates. Any one accustomed to the peaceable and quiet manner in which the elections in America are conducted; can scarcely have any idea of an election as carried on in England.

On one of the flags, which was just unrolled before us the moment the coach reached its destination, was the following motto. "TRUTH WILL PREVAIL," which was painted in large gilt letters: it being so very seasonable, and the sentiment being so appropriate to us, in our situation, that we were involuntarily led to exclaim. Amen. So let it be.

Brother Goodson having found a room where we could be accommodated, which belonged to a widow woman, situated in Wilford street, we moved our baggage there. Shortly after, Brother Fielding returned having found his brother, who requested to have an interview with some of us that evening. Accordingly Elders Hyde, Goodson and myself went, and were kindly received by him, and Mr. Watson his brother-in-law, who was present at the time. We gave them a short



account of the object of our mission, and the great work which the Lord had commenced, and conversed on those subjects until a late hour. The next morning we were presented with half a crown which Mr. Fielding's sister had sent us.

It being Sunday, we went to hear Mr. Fielding preach, after he had got through his discourse, and without being requested by us, he gave out an appointment for some one of us to preach in the afternoon. It being noised abroad that some Elders from America were in town, and were going to preach in the afternoon; a large concourse of people assembled to hear us. It falling to my lot to speak, I called their attention to the first principles of the gospel, and told them something of the nature of the work which the Lord had commenced on the earth; after which Brother Hyde bore testimony to the same, which I believe was received by many, with whom I afterwards conversed. Another appointment was given out for us in the evening, at which time Brother Goodson preached, and Brother Fielding bore testimony. An appointment was then made for us on Wednesday evening at the same place, at which time Elder Hyde preached. A number now being convinced of the truth, believed the testimony, and began to praise God and rejoice exceedingly, that the Lord had again visited his people, and sent his servants to lay before them the doctrine of the gospel, "and the truth as it is in Jesus."

The Rev. Mr. Fielding, who had kindly invited us to preach in his chapel, knowing, that quite a number of his members believed our testimony, and that some were wishful to be baptized; shut his doors against us and would suffer us to preach no more in his chapel, and for an excuse, said that we had preached the doctrine of baptism for the remission of sins, contrary to our arrangement with him.

I need scarcely assure my friends, that nothing was said to him, from which any inference could be drawn, that we should surpress the doctrine of baptism. No! we deemed it too important a doctrine, to lay aside for any privilege we could receive from mortals. Mr. Fielding understood our doctrines, even before we came there, having received several communications from his

Brother Joseph, who wrote to him from Canada, in which letters, were clearly laid down, the doctrines of the Church of Latter Day Saints; we likewise had conversed with him on the subject at our former interview. However, he having been traditioned to believe in infant baptism; and having preached, and practised the same a number of years, he saw the situation he would be placed in, if he obeyed the gospel, and that notwithstanding his talents, and standing in society; he would have to come into the sheep fold, by the door; and after all his preaching to others, have to be baptized himself for the remission of sins, by those who were ordained to that power.

These considerations undoubtedly had their weight upon his mind, and caused him to act as he did; and notwithstanding his former kindness he soon became one of our most violent opposers. An observation which escaped his lips shortly after this circumstance I shall here mention. Speaking one day respecting the three first sermons which were preached in that place; he said that "Kimball bored the holes, Goodson drove the nails, and Hyde clinched them." However his congregation did not follow his example, they having for some time been praying for our coming, and having been assured by Mr. Fielding that he could not place more confidence in an angel, than he did in the statements of his brother respecting this people; consequently they were in a great measure prepared for the reception of the gospel; probably as much so, as Cornelius was antiently. Having now no public place to preach in, we began to preach in private houses, which were opened in every direction, while numbers believed the gospel; and after we had been in that place eight days, we began to baptize in the name of the Lord Jesus for the remission of sins.— One Rev. Gentleman came and forbid us baptizing any of his members; but we told him that all who were of age, and requested baptism, we should undoubtedly administer that ordinance to them. One Saturday evening I was appointed by the brethren to baptize a number the next morning in the river Ribble, which runs through that place. By this time the adversary of souls began to rage, and he felt a determination to destroy us before we had fully established the kingdom in that land, and the next morning I witnessed such a scene of satanic

power and influence as I shall never forget while memory lasts.

About day break, Brother Russel (who was appointed to preach in the Market place that day,) who slept in the second story of the house in which we were entertained; came up to the room where Elder Hyde and myself were sleeping; and called upon us to rise and pray for him, for he was so afflicted with evil spirits that he could not live long unless he should obtain relief. We immediately arose, and laid hands upon him, and prayed that the Lord would have mercy on his servant and rebuke the devil, while thus engaged I was struck with great force by some invisible power and fell senseless on the floor, as if I had been shot; and the first thing that I recollected was, that I was supported by Brothers Hyde and Russel, who were beseeching a throne of grace on my behalf. They then laid me on the bed, but my agony was so great that I could not endure, and I was obliged to get out, and fell on my knees and began to pray, I then sat on the bed and could distinctly see the evil spirits who foamed and gnashed their teeth upon us. We gazed upon them about an hour and a half, and I shall never forget the horror and malignity depicted on the countenances of these foul spirits, and any attempt to paint the scene which then presented itself; or portray the malice and enmity depicted in their countenances would be vain. I perspired exceedingly, and my clothes were as wet as if I had been taken out of the river. Although I felt exquisite pain, and was in the greatest distress for some time, and cannot even now look back on the scene without feelings of horror; yet, by it I learned the power of the adversary, his enmity against the servants of God, and got some understanding of the invisible world. However the Lord delivered us from the wrath of our spiritual enemies and blessed us exceedingly that day, and I had the pleasure (notwithstanding my weakness of body, from the shock I had experienced, spiritual) of baptizing nine individuals and hailing them brethren in the kingdom of God.

A circumstance took place, while at the water side, which I cannot refrain from mentioning, which will show the eagerness and anxiety of some in that land to obey the gospel. Two of the candidates who were changing their clothes and preparing for baptism, at the distance



of several rods from the place where I was standing in the water; being so anxious to obey the gospel, that they ran with all their might to the water, each wishing to be baptized first. The younger being quicker of foot than the elder, out ran him, and came first into the water; which circumstance reminded me of Peter and another disciple, who went to see the sepulchre where the Savior was laid; their anxiety being so great to find out whether he was yet there or not; that they had a race for it. The circumstance of baptizing being somewhat novel, a large concourse of people assembled on the banks of the river, to witness the ceremony.

In the afternoon, Elder Russel preached in the Market place, standing on the Obleisk, to a very large congregation; numbers of whom were pricked to the heart. Thus the work of the Lord, commenced in that land, notwithstanding the rage of the adversary, and his attempt to destroy us; a work which shall roll forth, not only in that land, but upon all the face of the earth, even "in lands and isles unknown."

The next morning we held a council; at which Elders Goodson and Richards were appointed to go to the city of Bedford; there being a good prospect, from the information received, of a church being built up in that city. Elders Russel and Snider were appointed to go to Alston in Cumberland, near the borders of Scotland, and Elders Hyde, Fielding, and myself were to remain in Preston, and the regions round about. The next day, the brethren took their departure for the different fields of labor assigned them.

Brothers Hyde, Fielding, and myself, continued lifting up our voices in private houses, at the corners of the streets, in the Market place, and wherever the Lord opened a door. The following Sabbath, Elder Hyde preached in the Market place to a numerous assemblage both rich and poor, who flocked from all parts to hear "what these babblers had to say" hearing that we were "setters forth of strange doctrines." After Brother Hyde had got through, I gave an exhortation, and when I had concluded, a minister stept forward to oppose us on the doctrines we advanced, but more particularly on the doctrine of baptism; he being a great stickler for infant baptism. The people thinking he intended to offend us, would not let him proceed, but seemed deter-

mined to put him down, and undoubtedly would have done so, had not Brother Hyde interposed and begged permission for the gentleman to speak, and told the congregation, that he was prepared to meet any arguments he might advance; this appeased the people who listened to the remarks of the Rev. Gentleman: after which Brother Hyde spoke in answer to the objections which had been offered, to the satisfaction of nearly all present, and the minister felt somewhat ashamed. One individual came up to him and asked him what he now thought of his "Baby Baptism"; while another came took him by the hand, and led him out of the throng. Indeed all those who rose up to oppose the doctrines we taught, were confounded, and could not with any success whatever, combat the truths we preached.

Having had considerable success the short time we had labored in that place, and having baptized a number that week, we requested them to meet at the house of Sister Dawson for confirmation, that evening, (the second Sabbath.) The church having come together, we fully explained to them the nature of that ordinance, and then laid our hands upon them, for the gift of the Holy Ghost; and confirmed between forty and fifty, as members of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. While attending to this ordinance the spirit of the Lord rested down upon us in a powerful manner; which caused us to rejoice exceedingly; thus the work of the Lord spread and prevailed.

About this time, a young lady, the daughter of a minister of the Presbyterian order, who resided about fifteen miles from Preston; being on a visit to that place happened to be at the house of a family with whom I was acquainted; calling in to see them, at the time she was there, I was introduced to her, and we immediately entered into conversation on the subject of the gospel. I found her a very intelligent person, and she seemed very desirous to hear the things I had to teach, and understand the doctrines of the gospel. I informed her of an appointment I had made to preach that evening, and invited her to attend; she did so, and likewise the evening following; and after attending these two services she was fully convinced of the truth, and the next morning sent for me desiring to be baptized, which request I cheerfully complied with, and confirmed her at the water side.

o/  
1 The following day, she started for home, requesting me to pray for her; and gave us some encouragement to expect, that her father would open his chapel for me to preach in. I then hastened to my brethren, told them of the circumstance, and the result of my visit with the young lady, and then called upon them to unite in prayer, that the Lord would soften the heart of her father, that he might be induced to open his chapel for us to preach in, and that our way might be opened in that place.

The next week I received a letter from her, and one from her father; in which he informed me, that I was expected to be at his place the following Saturday, as he had given out an appointment for me to preach in his chapel the next Sunday. The following is a copy of the letter:

"Sir:—You are expected to be here next Saturday. You are given out to preach in the forenoon, afternoon, and evening. Although we be strangers to one another, yet, I hope we are not strangers to our blessed Redeemer, else I would not have given out for you to preach, our chapel is but little and the congregation but few—yet if one soul be converted, it is of more value than the whole world.

I remain in haste,

JOHN RICHARDS."

Agreeably to the kind invitation, I made preparation to visit that place, and took coach on Saturday afternoon at Preston, and arrived at his house, a little before dark. On entering he arose and said, "I understand you are the minister lately from America," I told him I was. He then bade me welcome to his house, and seemed to rejoice at my arrival. After receiving a comfortable refreshment at his hospitable board, we commenced a conversation, which lasted till a late hour; which appeared satisfactory to the whole family. The next morning I accompanied the Rev. Gentleman to his chapel, and at the hour appointed, commenced to preach to an overflowing congregation, on the principles of salvation. I likewise preached in the afternoon and evening; and they seemed to manifest great interest in the things which I laid before them. Nearly the whole congregation were melted down into tears. After I had concluded the services of the day, Mr. Richards gave out another appoint-



ment for me to preach on Monday evening, which I attended to. I likewise, by request of the congregation, preached on Wednesday evening. A number now began to believe the doctrines I advanced, and on Thursday, six individuals, all members of Mr. Richards' church came forward for baptism. Mr. Richards now seeing the effect which my preaching produced, and fearing lest he should lose all his members, and likewise his salary, which was allowed him for preaching, told me, that he must close the doors of his chapel against me; but at the same time, his behavior was kind, and to his praise be it spoken, treated me with the greatest hospitality. †

I then began to preach in private houses, which were opened in that neighborhood, and I ceased not to declare to all who came to hear, both by night and by day, the glorious tidings of salvation; and that God had again restored the ordinances as at the first, and counsellors as at the beginning.

Notwithstanding Mr. Richards closed the door of his meeting house against me, yet he frequently came to hear me preach.

His daughter felt very sorrowful on account of her father, not allowing me to preach any more in his place of worship, and wept much; but I told her not to fear, for I believed that God would soften his heart and cause him to open his chapel for me to preach in again.

During this time I was principally entertained at his house. The next Sunday I went along with him to his meeting, feeling a desire to hear him preach. After he had finished his discourse, I was surprised to hear him give out another appointment for me to preach in his chapel. I accordingly preached in the afternoon and in the evening, and the word seemed to be with power, and the effect was great upon the people; and the next day I baptized two more, both members of Mr. Richards' church. Although Mr. Richards had preached in that place upwards of thirty years, and his members, as well as the inhabitants of the place, and vicinity, were very much attached to him; yet when the fulness of the gospel was preached, although in much weakness, the people, notwithstanding their attachment and regard for their venerable pastor, being convinced of their duty, came forward and followed the footsteps of the Savior, by being buried in the likeness of his death.

After laboring for some time in this neighborhood, I was warned by the spirit to return to Preston, and there found that I was anxiously expected by the brethren, who had received a letter from Brother Richards, and one from Brother Russel, which gave an account of their proceedings since they left Preston. Brother Goodson had likewise returned from Bedfordshire, where he and Brother Richards had labored, who gave us a relation of their mission and success. He informed us that a minister of the name of Matthews brother-in-law to Elder Joseph Fielding, received them very kindly and invited them to preach in his church, which invitation was kindly accepted, and in which they preached several times, and a number, amongst whom was Mr. Mathews and his lady, believed their testimony, and the things which they proclaimed. Mr. Mathews, had likewise borne testimony to his congregation, of the truth of these things, and that they were the same principles as taught by the apostles in ancient days; and beseeched his church to receive the same. Several of his members went forward and obeyed the gospel; and the time was appointed when he was to be baptized. However in the interval, something had caused him to stumble, and darkness had prevailed his mind, insomuch so that at the time specified he did not make his appearance, but went to a Baptist minister residing in that place, whom he prevailed upon to baptize him; and then from that time he began to preach baptism for the remission of sins; and no longer walked with the Saints. However great part of his members left him and obeyed the truth, and in a letter which he wrote to his brother-in-law, the Rev. James Fielding, stated that "his best member had left him."

It would probably be well to say a few words respecting Mr. Mathews and Mr. Fielding, and their congregations, also their situation prior to the time the gospel saluted their ears. Mr. Mathews who is a gentleman of considerable learning and talents; had been a minister in the established church of England; but seeing a great many things in that church, contrary to truth and righteousness, and moreover believing that an overturn was at hand, and that the church was destitute of the gifts of the spirit, and was not expecting the Savior to come to reign upon the earth; as had been spoken by the prophets; he felt led to withdraw from that body,

and consequently gave up his prospects in that establishment; and began to preach the things which he verily believed; and was instrumental in raising up quite a church in that place.

Mr. J. Fielding had been a minister in the methodist church, but for some of the above causes, had withdrawn from that society, and had collected a considerable church in Preston. Those gentlemen, with their congregations, were I believe diligently contending for that faith, which was once delivered to the Saints, at the time we arrived, but afterwards rejected the truth. Yet, notwithstanding they did not obey the gospel, the greater portion of their members received our testimony, obeyed the ordinances we taught, and are now rejoicing in the blessings of the new and everlasting covenant. About this time, Brother Snider returned from the north, where he had been laboring in company with Brother Russel. He stated that they had met with considerable opposition while preaching the gospel, but that some had obeyed the truth and that others were investigating. After spending a few days with us, he and Brother Goodson took their leave of us, and started for Liverpool about the first of October on their way to America having business of importance which called them home.

Although we were deprived of the labors of these brethren, yet the work of the Lord continued to roll forth with great power, the news of our arrival in that city, spread both far and wide, and calls from all quarters, to go and preach, were constantly sounding in our ears; and we laboured both night and day, that we might satisfy the people; who manifested such a love for the truth, as I never saw before. We had to go to small houses, to very crowded congregations, or to large assemblies in the open air; consequently, our throats were very sore and our bodies considerably wore down with fatigue. Soon after this, we obtained a large and commodious place to preach in, called "The Cock Pit;" which had formerly been used by the people, to witness those birds fight, and kill one another, and where hundreds of spectators had shouted in honor of the barbarous sport, which was once the pride of Britains; but which, I am happy to say, is now almost entirely abandoned. And now, instead of the huzzas of the wicked



and profane, is heard the gospel of Christ and the voice of praise and thanksgiving. It had likewise been used for a Temperance Hall.

We had to pay seven shillings sterling per week for the use of it, and two shillings per week for the lighting, it being beautifully lit up with gas. It is situated in the centre of the town, and about twenty rods from the "old church," probably the oldest in Lancashire, this church has twelve bells which are rung at every service; the noise of which was, so great that we were unable to proceed in our services until they had done ringing them.

Our meeting was once disturbed by some ministers belonging to the Methodist church; however we got our place licensed, and two gentlemen, who were constables, proffered their services to keep the peace and protect us from any further disturbances, which they continued to do, as long as we stayed in that land. The effect of the gospel of Jesus Christ, now began to be apparent, not only in the hearts of believers, but likewise in the conduct of those who rejected it, and many began to threaten us with persecution, for preaching without having a licence from the authority of the nation. This idea of obtaining a licence from the secular authority was somewhat novel to us, but after consulting our friends amongst whom was Mr. Richards' son, (the minister of whom I have made mention) an attorney, practising in that neighborhood, we found that it was according to the constitution of that realm. Brother Hyde and myself then made application to the quarter sessions for licences and by the assistance of Mr. Richards, obtained them. We offered to remunerate Mr. Richards for his trouble, but he refused to take any thing from us, saying that we were perfectly welcome for any services he had rendered us.

Having now obeyed the requisitions of the law, we felt ourselves tolerably safe, knowing that our enemies now could not lawfully make us afraid or harm us.

Although we had many persecutors, who would have rejoiced at our destruction and who felt a determination to overthrow the work of the Lord, yet there were many who were very friendly, who would have stood by us under all circumstances, and would not have been afraid to hazard their lives in our behalf.

After we had labored for some time in Preston, and having baptized a number into the kingdom of God; Brother Hyde and myself went about ten miles into the country to preach, agreeably to an invitation we had received. We preached twice to very numerous congregations, who paid great attention to our word, and who marvelled at the things we proclaimed. After which we returned to Preston. Soon after I paid a visit to the church at Walker Fold, that being the name of the place, where the Rev. Mr. Richards resided. I found the church prospering, and after laboring a few days, several more were added to their number. From that place I went to Bashe Lees, where I preached and baptized two persons. From thence, I continued my journey to Ribchester situated on the River Ribble, where I preached to a very large congregation; and then returned to Preston.

Having had some very pressing calls, to go to some villages south of Preston, I accordingly started to visit those places, in company with Brother F. Moon, who had been baptized a short time previous. On arriving at we gave out an appointment to preach, and at the time appointed, the people flocked in crowds to hear me; amongst the number, were five preachers, who listened with great interest to my discourse, and who with the greatest part of the congregation, believed the doctrines I advanced.

The next day I went to a village called Askin, and preached in the evening; and the following day went to Eggleston, where I had the privilege of preaching in a Methodist chapel. The three last times I preached I baptized ten individuals, of whom, were two preachers, belonging to the Association Methodists.

After spending several days in that neighborhood I returned to Preston, where the church had now become numerous, and with the assistance of Elders Hyde and Fielding, proceeded to organize them. We divided the church into several branches, and appointed proper officers to preside over them. Thursday evening was appointed for prayer meetings to be held in different parts, and Sundays for the whole church to assemble in the Cock Pit, where the sacrament, was administered, and such instructions given, as were thought necessary, for their spiritual prosperity and advantage.

While attending to this, the greatest harmony and love prevailed; and if ever any persons received the kingdom of heaven like little children it was those brethren.

After having attended to this duty, I again went into the country, where I spent the principle part of my time; occasionally visiting Preston.

During my labors, I was greatly assisted by the spirit of the Lord, and my soul was comforted exceedingly.— Churches were raised up in different directions: and many, who had previously “sat in darkness, upon them the true light shined,” and before its benign and enlightening rays, the mists of darkness, the clouds of error and superstition fled; while “those who murmured learned doctrine and those who erred in spirit came to understanding.”

I was instrumental, in building up churches in the following places, viz: Eccleston, Wrightington, Askin, Exton, Daubers Lane, Chorly, Whittle and Laland Moss, after laboring about four weeks; and baptized upwards of one hundred persons; which caused me to rejoice exceedingly in the God and rock of my salvation, that I had not to labor in vain, or spend my strength for nought: Moreloving and affectionate saints I never saw before, and they were patterns of humility.

All the above mentioned village, are within a very short distance of each other, and convenient to Preston.

After my return from those places, I took a tour, to the North East of Preston in company with Elder Fielding, where we labored together a short time with considerable success, and raised up churches in Ribchester, Thomly, Soney Gate Lane, and at Clitheroe a very large market town containing several thousand inhabitants. At the latter place I baptized a Preacher and six members of the Methodist church immediately after I had preached the first time. We likewise baptized several in the town of Waddington and Downham.

The day after we preached in Downham, we received a very pressing invitation to preach in Chatburn, but having given out an appointment to preach in Clitheroe that evening, I informed them, that I would not be able to comply with their request; this did not satisfy them, but they continued to solicit me with the greatest importunity, until I was obliged to consent to go with them, after requesting Elder Fielding to attend to the other appointment.



On my arrival at the village, I was cordially received by the inhabitants, who turned out in large numbers to hear me preach. I commenced my address to them in my usual manner, and the spirit of the Lord seemed to carry the word to the hearts of the congregation, who listened with great attention, and received the ingrafted word, which was able to make them wise unto salvation.

Being satisfied in my mind, from the witness of the spirit, that numbers were believing, I gave an opportunity to those who wished to obey the gospel, after doing so, and immediately repaired to the water, although it was late in the evening; and before I had done I baptized twenty-five for the remission of their sins, and was engaged in this pleasing duty, until one o'clock, the next morning.

After being absent from Preston about seven days, in which time, we had added eighty-three souls to the church, we returned, praising God for all his mercies, and for visiting our labors with such abundant success.

"No harvest joy can equal theirs

Who see the fruit of all their cares."

It being near Christmas, we agreed to hold a general Conference in Preston on Christmas day, there being business of importance to the churches to be attended to; and likewise several to be ordained to the ministry.

On Christmas day, the Saints assembled in the Cock Pit, and we then opened the Conference, which was the first that was held by the church of Christ in that country. There were about three hundred Saints present on the occasion, all of whom with the exception of three had been baptized within a very short time. Elders Hyde, Fielding and myself were present. The brethren were instructed on the principles of the gospel, and their several duties enjoined upon them, as Saints of the Most High, which were, calculated to strengthen and bind them together in the cords of love. We then proceeded to ordain several of the brethren to the lesser priesthood, to take charge of the different branches where they resided, confirmed fourteen who had previously been baptized, and blessed about one hundred children.

At this Conference, the word of wisdom was first

publicly taught, in that country; having heretofore taught it more by example than precept; and from my own observation afterwards, I am happy to state, that it was almost universally attended to by the brethren.

The spirit of the Lord was with us during our interview; and truly the hearts of the Elders were rejoiced beyond measure, when we contemplated the glorious work which had begun; and had to exclaim, "It is the Lords' doings, and it is marvelous in our eyes; and blessed be the name of the Lord." I felt greatly humbled before the Lord, who had crowned our labors with such signal success, and had prospered us far beyond my most sanguine expectations.

Immediately after this Conference, Elder Hyde and myself went to a village called Longton, situate near the sea shore, where we raised the standard of truth, and published to the listening crowds, the glad tidings of salvation. After delivering two discourses, several came to us and requested baptism. It being very cold weather, insomuch so that the streams were all frozen up, we had to repair to the sea shore to administer that ordinance, and immersed fifteen in the waters of the ocean.

It would probably be too tedious, to enumerate all the particulars which occurred, during the time we sojourned in that country; I shall therefore pass over many events which, though pleasing to us at that time, which showed the kind dealings of our Heavenly Father; but which would not be sufficiently interesting to others. I shall therefore content myself by giving an outline of the principal circumstances attending our mission, which I have no doubt will be pleasing to the brethren, and to all who love the prosperity of Zion.

From this time, until about five weeks previous to our departure from that land, we were continually engaged in the work of the ministry, proclaiming the everlasting gospel, in all the region round about, and baptizing all such as believed the gospel and repented of their sins.— And truly, "the Lord of Hosts was with us, the God of Jacob was our refuge." The Holy Ghost the Comforter was given to us and abode upon us in a remarkable manner, while numbers thronged to hear our addresses, and "numbers were added to the church daily, such as should be saved." We would baptize as many as fifty in Preston in a week, exclusive of those in the country. One

short mission which Brother Hyde and I took into the country; after preaching five discourses on the principles of our holy religion, we had the pleasure of immersing one hundred and thirty in the waters of baptism.

Thus mightily ran the word of God and prospered; to the joy and comfort of his servants, and to the salvation of precious and immortal souls; while the world was struck with amazement and surprise at the things which they saw and heard. During this state of things, our enemies were not idle, but heaped abuse upon us with an unsparing hand, and issued torrents of lies after us, which, however, I am thankful to say, did not sweep us away. Among those most active in publishing falsehoods against us and the truth, were many of the reverend clergy, who were afraid to meet us face to face in honorable debate, although particularly requested so to do, but sought every opportunity to destroy our characters, and propagate their lies concerning us, thus giving testimony that "they loved darkness rather than light." Although we frequently called upon the ministers of the different denominations, who we knew had taken a stand against us, to come forward and investigate the subject of our religion before the world, in an honorable manner, and bring forth their strong reasons to disapprove the things we taught, and convince the people by sound argument and the word of God, if they could; that we did not preach the gospel of Christ, but this they altogether declined.— This course we felt moved upon by the Spirit to adopt. But they kept at a respectful distance and only came out when we were absent, with misrepresentations and abuse. It is true we suffered some, from the statements which they thought proper to make, when we could get no opportunity to contradict them; but generally, their reports were of such a character as carried along with them their own refutation.

The time when we expected to return to our native land, having now nearly arrived; it was thought necessary, to spend the short time we had to remain in that country, in visiting and organizing the Churches; placing such officers over them, and giving such instructions as would be beneficial to them during our absence. Accordingly, Brothers Hyde, Fielding and myself, entered upon this duty, and we visited a Church nearly every day, and imparted such instructions as the Spirit direct-



ed. We first visited the Churches south of Preston, and after spending some time in that direction we journeyed to the north, accompanied by Brother Richards who had just returned from the city of Bedford; his health being but poor he was not able to preach. While we were attending to our duties in that section, we received a very pressing invitation from a Baptist church, through the medium of their deacon to pay them a visit, stating, that the society were exceedingly anxious to hear from our own lips, the wonderful things we had proclaimed in the regions round about. We endeavored to excuse ourselves from going as our engagements already were such, that it would require the short time we had to stay to attend to them. But they seemed determined to take no denial, and plead with us with such earnestness, that we could not resist their intreaties and finally consented to go and preach once. Having arrived at the place, we found a large congregation already assembled in the Baptist chapel, anxiously waiting our arrival. The minister gave out the Hymns for us, and Elder Hyde spoke on the subject of the resurrection with great effect; after which the minister gave out another Hymn which was sung by the assembly, and then he requested me to address them. I arose and spoke briefly on the first principles of the gospel. During the services the congregation was overjoyed, the tears ran down their cheeks, and the minister could not refrain from frequently clapping his hands together while in the meeting for joy. After the service was over he took us to his house, where we were very kindly entertained. After partaking of his hospitality he with some more friends, accompanied us to our lodgings, where we remained in conversation until a very late hour. The next morning while we were preparing to depart we were waited upon by several of the citizens, who requested us to preach again that day, stating, that great interest was felt by the inhabitants, many of whom were in tears, fearing they should hear us no more; and that a number of influential men, had suspended operation in their factories, to allow their workmen the privilege of hearing us preach; but we were obliged to deny them, as it was necessary to attend to the appointments we had previously made. We could scarcely tear ourselves away from them and when we did so, they wept like little children, such a desire to hear

the gospel, I never saw equalled before. The Saints will be able to gather some idea from this circumstance, of the great and extensive calls for the Elders of Israel in that land, where there are so many thousands, thirsting for the streams of knowledge, and the privileges and blessings of the gospel.

After commending them to the grace and mercy of God, we went to Downham, where we preached in the afternoon, after which forty came forward and were baptized. In the evening we called the churches of Chetburn and Downham together; and after confirming forty five who had previously been baptized, we appointed priests, teachers and deacons to preside over them. There being something interesting, in the establishing of the gospel in these two last mentioned villages, I will therefore relate the circumstances of my visit to those places, and the prospect we had of success, prior to our proclaiming the truth to them.

Having been preaching in the neighborhood of these villages, I felt it my duty to pay them a visit and tell them my mission. Having mentioned my desires to several of the brethren, they endeavored to dissuade me from going, informing me that there could be no prospect of success whatever as several ministers of different denominations had endeavored to raise churches in these places and had frequently preached to them but to no effect, for they had resisted all the efforts and withstood the attempts of all sects and parties for thirty years, who seeing all their attempts futile, had given them up to the hardness of their hearts, I was also informed they were very wicked places and the inhabitants were hardened against the gospel. However this did not discourage me in the least, believing that the gospel of Jesus Christ could reach the heart, when the gospels of men were found abortive, I consequently told those who tried to dissuade me from going, that these were the places I wanted to go to, and that it was my business, "to call not the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Accordingly I went in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and I soon procured a large barn to preach in, which was crowded to excess. Having taken my stand in the middle of the congregation so that all might be able to hear, I commenced my discourse, spoke with great simplicity on the subject of the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus

Christ, the conditions of pardon for a fallen world, and the privileges and blessings of all those who embraced the truth; I likewise said a little on the subject of the resurrection. My remarks were accompanied by the spirit of the Lord and were received with joy, and these people who were represented as being so hard and obdurate, were melted down into tenderness and love, and such a feeling was produced as I never saw before, and the effect seemed to be general.

I then told them, that being a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ, I stood ready at all times to administer the ordinances of the gospel. After I had concluded, I felt some one pulling at my coat. I turned round and asked the person what it was they desired, the answer was "please sir, will you baptize me," "and me," "and me," exclaimed more than a dozen voices. We accordingly went down into the water, and before I left, I baptized twenty five for the remission of sins—and was engaged in this delightful duty until four o'clock the next morning.—Another evening the congregation was so numerous that I had to preach in the open air, and took my stand on a stone wall, and afterwards baptized a number. These towns seemed to be affected from one end to the other, parents called their children together, spoke to them of the subjects which I had preached, and warned them against swearing and all other evil practices and instructed them in their duty, &c. &c. Such a scene I presume was never witnessed in this place before—the hearts of the people appeared to be broken and the next morning they were all in tears thinking they should see my face no more. When I left them my feelings were such as I cannot describe, as I walked down the street followed by numbers, the doors were crowded by the inmates of the houses to bid us a last farewell, who could only give vent to their grief in sobs and broken accents. While contemplating this scene we were induced to take off our hats, for we felt as if the place was holy ground—the Spirit of the Lord rested down upon us, and I was constrained to bless that whole region of country, we were followed by a great number, a considerable distance from the villages who could hardly separate themselves from us. My heart was like unto theirs, and I thought my head was a fountain of tears, for I wept for several miles after I bid them adieu. From thence we returned



to Preston and after a short stay, visited Penwortham and Longton and organized the churches in these places which consist of about fifty members each. On the first of April we returned to Preston and agreed to hold a general Conference of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in that country on the eighth inst.: it being the day previous to our departure. The interval was spent in preaching, baptizing, confirming, and setting in order the churches, and it being known that we had but a short time to remain in that country; great numbers flocked to hear us preach, and numbers were baptized: some days we went from house to house conversing with the people on the things of the kingdom and would sometimes by such a course be instrumental in convincing many of the truth; and I have known as many as twenty persons baptized in one day who have been convinced on such occasions: they were like Lydia of old "who gladly received the word." I have had to go into the water to administer the ordinance of baptism six or seven times in a day, and frequently after having come out of the water and changed my clothes, I have had to return back again before I reached my home; this too when the weather was extremely cold, the ice being from twelve to fourteen inches thick, which continued so about twelve weeks, during which time I think there were but ten days, in which we were not in the water; "the harvest was indeed plenteous but the laborers were few." This was very extraordinary weather for that country; as I was informed that some winters they had scarcely any frost or snow, and the oldest inhabitants told me, that they never experienced such a winter before. In consequence of the inclemency of the weather, several manufacturing establishments were shut up, and several thousand workmen as well as women and children were thrown out of employment, whose sufferings during that time were severe, and I was credibly informed, and verily believe, that numbers perished from starvation. Such sufferings I never witnessed in my life before and the scenes which I daily beheld while in that country was ready to chill the blood in my veins: the streets were crowded with men, women and children, who solicited alms from the passengers as they walked along. Numbers of those poor wretches were

without shoes or stockings and scarcely any covering to screen them from the inclemency of the weather.

Oh! when will distress and poverty and pain cease, and peace and plenty abound? When the Lord Jesus shall descend in the clouds of heaven—when the rod of the oppressor shall be broken. Hasten the time; O Lord, was frequently the language of my heart, when I contemplated the scenes of wretchedness and woe, which I daily witnessed and my prayer to my heavenly Father was, that if I had to witness a succession of such scenes of wretchedness and woe, that he would harden my heart, for those things were too much for me to bear, neither could I endure them: 'This is no exaggerated account, I have used no coloring here, but they are facts which will meet the Elders of Israel when they shall go forth into that land, and then I can assure them they will not be surprised at my feelings.

But to return. During this time not only were great numbers initiated into the kingdom of heaven, but those who were sick were healed, and those who were diseased flocked to us daily, and truly their faith was great, such as I hardly ever witnessed before, consequently many were healed of their infirmities and sicknesses. We were continually employed and hardly gave "sleep to our eyes or slumber to our eyelids," and some nights we would hardly close them. The task was almost more than we could endure, but realizing the circumstances of this people, their love of the truth, their humility and unfeigned charity, caused us to use all diligence and make good use of every moment of time, for truly our bowels yearned over them. Notwithstanding our unwearied and unceasing labors, we could not fill the calls we had from day to day, for the work kept spreading, the prospect of usefulness grew brighter and brighter, and the field opened larger and larger, while the cries from the North, from the South, from the East and from the West of come over and help us, were more and more frequently sounding in our ears.

The reader will not, I think accuse me of egotism, when I say that we were diligent, for I do not remember during the last six months I spent in that country, of retiring to my bed earlier than twelve o'clock P. M. which was also the case with Brothers Hyde and Fielding.—Brother Hyde was laid up with sickness about six weeks

on account of his excessive labors, from which however he was happily restored.

On the eighth day of April A. D. 1833, it being Sunday, and the time appointed for a general Conference of the Saints in that kingdom, and the day previous to our departure from them; they began to assemble at an early hour in the morning, and by nine o'clock there were from six to seven hundred of the Saints assembled from various parts of the country.

The meeting was opened by singing and prayer.—While I contemplated the congregation then assembled, which had been brought into the kingdom, through our instrumentality in such a short time, I was truly grateful to my heavenly Father, and my soul did magnify his holy name, while my aspirations ascended to heaven, that all those who had embraced the gospel, might, through endurance of faith unto the end, share in the glories of the eternal world, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of our Father.

To one who has been the humble instrument in the hands of God of bringing souls into the kingdom, and who has instructed them in the things of God, and has rejoiced in seeing their minds expand, and their ready reception of the truth of heaven, and whose souls are humble and filled with gratitude to God, for sending them his servants to lead them into the ways of truth; there is a tie of no ordinary kind, binds that individual to such a people, and it requires considerable effort of mind to tear himself away from such an affectionate and loving society.

After the meeting was opened, we proceeded to give instructions to the official members, reminding them of their several duties, and callings, and the responsibilities which rested upon them, pressed upon them the necessity of being humble and faithful in the discharge of their duties, so that by patience, by meekness, and by love unfeigned, they might commend themselves to God and to the church of Jesus Christ; over whom the Holy Ghost had made them overseers.

Believing it necessary for the good of the kingdom, to have some one to preside over the whole church, we nominated Brother Joseph Fielding to be appointed to that office, and Brothers Levi Richards and Wm. Clayton



to be his counselors; the nomination met with the approbation of the whole assembly, who agreed to hearken to their instructions and uphold them in their offices; these brethren were then, with eight Elders, several Priests, Teachers and Deacons, set apart and ordained to the several offices to which they were called. One of the brethren who was ordained, was going to Manchester, one of the largest manufacturing towns in England, and another to the city of London, and who undoubtedly would carry the glad tidings of salvation to those places.

We then laid hands upon forty individuals who had previously been baptized, for the gift of the Holy Ghost; after which about one hundred children were presented to us to receive a blessing, and the same day we baptized twenty individuals for the remission of sins, and then proceeded to administer the sacrament to this numerous assembly; we then gave some general instructions to the whole church, respecting their duty to God and to one another, which were listened to with great attention, and were treasured up in the hearts of most who were present. At 5 o'clock P. M. we brought the Conference to a close, it having continued without intermission from nine o'clock A. M. We then appointed seven o'clock the same evening, to deliver our farewell addresses. At the time appointed we repaired to the meeting, which was crowded to excess. Brother Hyde and myself then spoke to them respecting our labors in that land, the success of our ministry, and the kindness we had experienced at their hands, told them that we hoped before long to see them again, after we had visited the church and our families in America: but when we spoke of our departure their hearts were broken within them, they gave vent to their feelings and wept like children, and broke out in cries like the following: "How can we part with our beloved brethren?" "we may never see them again." "O why can you leave us?" &c. I could not refrain, my feelings only found vent in a flood of tears.

Some persons may be disposed to accuse me of weakness on this occasion, but if any should do so, I would say that I do not envy any man's feelings, who could witness such a scene, with all its associations, and the finer feelings of his heart strings not to be touched on

such an occasion; indeed it would have been almost an impossibility for us to have left this dear and affectionate people, had we not had the most implicit confidence in the brethren who were appointed to preside over them in our absence; but knowing their faith and virtuous conversation, and that they had the confidence of the church, we felt confident that the affairs of the church would be conducted in righteousness; consequently we left them under different feelings than we otherwise could, had they had no shepherd.

Immediately after dismissing we met the official members at a private house, the number of whom were eighty, and instructed them further in their duty and broke up at one o'clock the next morning. This was certainly one of the most interesting conferences I ever attended, the services were calculated to convince the honest and to give joy to Saints, and will long be remembered by all those who attended, and I have no doubt was the means of great and lasting good. At this conference we were favoured with the company of Elders Isaac Russel and Willard Richards. The latter had returned from the county of Bedford, where he had been proclaiming the gospel; in consequence of sickness his labors had not been so extensive as they otherwise would have been, and were confined a short distance from the city of Bedford where he raised up two small branches, which he set in order and ordained one Elder and other officers. He labored under considerable difficulty in consequence of the conduct of Elder Goodson who accompanied him on that mission, who taught many things which were not in wisdom, which proved a barrier to the spread of the truth in that region; Elder Russel had returned from a mission to the North, having been laboring in the county of Cumberland near the borders of Scotland, where numbers of his friends resided. While he was there he met with considerable opposition even from those of his own family, as well as the ministers of the different denominations who sought every opportunity to block up his way and to destroy his influence.

However, notwithstanding the great opposition, he was instrumental of bringing upwards of sixty souls into the kingdom of God, and left them rejoicing in the truth, and strong in the faith of the gospel. Thus the great

work which is to go through the length and breadth of that land, which will cause the hearts of thousands to rejoice, and the poor and meek to increase their joy in the Lord—which shall lead the honest hearted to the fountain of truth—which shall prepare a holy company from that nation to meet the Lord Jesus when he shall descend from the mansions of glory, and from the regions which are not known—which shall cause thousands to rail against the doctrines of Christ and his servants, and persecute the honest in heart; which shall prepare the ungodly for the day of vengeance of our God, and shall bind them together in the cords of darkness; was commenced in three places, viz: Preston, Bedford and Alston, which forcibly reminds me of the parable of the leaven, which the woman cast into three measures of meal.

During our stay in Preston, we made our home at the house of Sister Dawson in Pole street, we purchased our provisions which she cooked for us, which is quite customary in that country. For our room, lodging and cooking and a good coal fire, we each paid the sum of two shillings sterling per week, which is but little more than half the usual charge, Sister Dawson was very kind unto us, indeed the hearts of all the Saints were open to liberality, and according to their circumstances they contributed liberally of their substance, and many blessings of a temporal nature, we received from them, for which I pray that my heavenly Father may reward them an hundred fold in this world, and in the world to come with life everlasting.

During the time we labored in England we made no public contributions, except for the poor. When we were about taking our departure, the church knowing we had no means to carry us to our native land, with a liberality characteristic of them, contributed to our necessities, and provided us with means to take us as far as Kirtland, Ohio. The next day, being the ninth of April, we engaged our passage to Liverpool in a coach, which was to start at twelve o'clock the same day.—At the time appointed we were at the place of starting, and were soon surrounded with the brethen, who felt determined to see us depart, many of whose countenances clearly showed their sorrow at our departure; however we had to bid them farewell, and were soon out of sight; there eyes followed us as long as they could see us.



Notwithstanding the variegated scenery of the country, which in England is very beautiful, my mind reverted back to the time when I first arrived in that country; and the peculiar feelings of mind when I traveled from Liverpool to Preston some months before. Then I was a stranger in a strange land, and had nothing to rely upon but the kindness and mercy of that God who had sent me there. While I mused on these things my soul was humbled within me, and I had to exclaim, "surely this is the Lord's doings and marvelous in my eyes;" for then I had hundreds of brethren, to whom I was united in bonds the most endearing and sacred, and who loved me as their own souls, and whose prayers would be continually offered up for my welfare and prosperity. After a ride of about four hours, we arrived at Liverpool, and ascertaining the ship in which we intended to sail, would not leave that port as early as was expected, in consequence of a great storm which had taken place, in which several vessels had been wrecked and a number of lives lost. We took lodgings a few days until the vessel should depart.

While in Liverpool, we were waited upon by Elders Fielding and Richards, who, feeling desirous to obtain all the information they could procure respecting the government of the church, thought that it would be a favorable time to do so, as our opportunities of instruction had been but limited while in Preston, and it being almost impossible to have much private intercourse, their being so many who wished to converse with us on the subject of the gospel &c. But in this thing they were disappointed, for as soon as it was known in Preston and regions round about, that our departure was delayed, then numbers of the brethren came from thence, to visit us in Liverpool before we left their shores.

On the 20th we went on board the ship Garrick (being the same ship in which we went) bound for New York, and the same day got under way. Soon after we left Liverpool a great storm came on, with a head wind, and continued without cessation for several days, which did considerable damage to the vessel; the bowsprit was broken twice by the force of the wind with only the gib sail set, the boom likewise came down with great force near the place where the Captain was standing;

but he fortunately escaped without injury; several other parts of the riging were much torn and injured. During the time the storm lasted, Brothers Hyde and Russel were very sick. After this we had more favorable weather. When we had been on the water two weeks, I asked permission of the Captain for one of us to preach, which request was cheerfully complied with, and the second Cabin was prepared for the occasion. Brother Russel preached, after which Brother Hyde made some observations; the discourses were listened too with great attention, and the congregation appeared very much satisfied. The Lord gave us favor in the eyes of the Captain, and the passengers, who treated us with respect and kindness. Those who were in the same Cabin with ourselves, and with whom we had more frequent opportunity of conversing, treated us like brothers, and took pleasure in administering to our wants, and told us if they had any thing we needed it was at our service. I hardly ever remembered traveling with more agreeable or kind hearted people, and I pray that the Lord may bless them abundantly and reward them an hundred fold for all the kindness shown to his servants.

Nothing very particular occurred during the remainder of the passage; the weather for the most part was favorable. On the 12th day of May we came in sight of New York, and in the evening we secured a landing, after a passage of twenty two and one half days. The ship New England, which left Liverpool on the same day we did, came in about one hour afterwards.

The sight of my native land filled my soul with gladness. We then went into the city with several of the passengers, who purchased some refreshments, and after we returned bade us partake with them, and we all rejoiced together; we then bowed down before the Lord and offered up the gratitude of our hearts for all his mercies, in prospering us in our mission and bringing us safely across the mighty deep, to behold once more, the land of our nativity, and the prospect of soon embracing our families and friends.

The next morning we went in search of Brother Fordham, whom we found after some trouble, he was rejoiced to see us and immediately took us to the house of Brother Mace, where we were glad to see our beloved Brother Orson Pratt who was then laboring in that city,

and who, with Elder Parley P. Pratt his brother, had been instrumental in bringing many into the kingdom in that city, which intelligence gave us great joy, for when we left New York for England, there was only one belonging to the church in that city.

It being Sunday, we accompanied Brother Pratt to the house where the Saints were accustomed to assemble for worship. On entering the house we found about eighty persons assembled, all whom had recently joined the church. After singing and prayer, I was requested to give an account of our mission to England. I accordingly arose and told them the things which had happened to us since our departure, and the great and glorious work which our heavenly Father had commenced on the islands of the sea, and the great desire of the English to hear the things which the Lord had brought to pass on this continent, and their ready reception of the truth of the gospel. The information gave great joy to the Saints, and they united with us in praising the name of the Lord for his wonderful works to the children of men. In the evening Elder Russel and Hyde preached, and a great effect was produced, and some came forward and offered themselves as candidates for baptism. The short time we were in New York was spent very agreeably with the Saints, who are indeed a kind and affectionate people. The next day we bade adieu to the brethren and commenced our journey to Kirtland by Steam Boat and Rail Road, and arrived there on the 22nd day of May, A. D. 1838, having been absent eleven months and nine days.

I found my family in good health, and as comfortably situated as I could expect; and our joy was mutual.—The Saints in Kirtland likewise received us with joy and welcomed us home.

But my journey was not yet ended; for soon after my arrival in Kirtland, I had to make preparation to move to the State of Missouri, where the greater part of the church had already removed. One great cause of their removal to the west, was the persecutions to which they were subject in Kirtland. The brethren who yet resided there, although very kind and affectionate, were weak in the faith, in consequence of trials and temptations. This caused us to grieve exceedingly, and



we resolved to cheer them up as much as we possibly could.

Being solicited to preach in the house of the Lord, we did so, and after preaching a few times, and recounting our travels, and the great success which had attended our labors, and also the marvelous work which the Lord had commenced, and was still carrying on in the old country; they began to take courage, their confidence increased, and their faith was strengthened, and they again realized the blessings of Jehovah.

As soon as our circumstances would permit we commenced our journey to the State of Missouri, by water, a distance of nearly eighteen hundred miles, and after enduring considerable fatigue, arrived in safety at Far West on the 25th of July: and had the pleasure of beholding the faces of numbers of our friends and brethren, in the kingdom and patience of Jesus; some of whom were so glad to see us, that the tears started in their eyes when we took them by the hand.

There is indeed something peculiarly pleasing to the Saint, who after a long separation, beholds the friends to whom he is united in bonds the most sacred, and with whom he has probably traveled to preach the gospel, and with them passed through many scenes of sorrow and affliction. At that time every pleasing association is revived, and memory fondly clings to those scenes, the contemplation of which affords pleasure; while every thing of an opposite nature is forgotten and buried in oblivion.

During our journey from Kirtland to Missouri, the weather was remarkably warm, in consequence of which I suffered very much, and my body was broken down by sickness, and I continued very feeble for a considerable length of time.

The first Sunday after my arrival at Far West I was called upon to preach to the Saints, which I endeavored to do, although I was scarcely able to stand. I related many things respecting my mission and travels. which were gladly received by the brethren, whose hearts were cheered by the recital, while many of the Elders were stirred up to diligence, and expressed a great desire to accompany us, when we should return to England.

Soon after my arrival, I had a lot given me by Bishop Partridge, and also, sufficient timber to build me a house.

While it was erecting, I lived in a place I built for my cow, about eleven feet square, and in which I could hardly stand upright. The brethren were remarkably kind, and contributed to my necessities. One of them, viz: Charles Hubbard made me a present of forty acres of land, another gave me a cow, &c.

When I had nearly finished my house, and after much labor, I was obliged to abandon it to the mob, who at that time commenced persecuting the Saints, driving off their cattle, and destroying their property.

It will not be expected that I should recapitulate the circumstances which then transpired, which were of an extraordinary character, as numbers have written on the subject: suffice it to say, that the Saints suffered privations, hunger, abuse, cold, famine, and many of them death. Yes, the blood of the Saints has stained the soil of Missouri, for which the King of Kings and Lord of Hosts will recompence upon her, the punishment of her crimes.

From about the 6th of August, until the 1st of November, it was a continual scene of agitation, and alarm, both by night and by day. The enemies of righteousness were determined to overthrow the Saints, and regardless of all laws, (which was trampled upon with impunity,) they made every preparation, and used every means in their power to accomplish their unhallowed designs.

The Saints, tenacious of their liberties, and sacred rights, resisted these unlawful designs, and with courage worthy of them, they guarded their families and their homes, from the aggressions of the mob, but not without the loss of several lives, among whom was my much esteemed and much lamented friend, Elder David W. Patten who fell a sacrifice to the fell spirit of persecution, and a martyr to the cause of truth. The circumstances of his death I will briefly relate.

It being ascertained that a mob had collected on Crooked river in the county of Caldwell, a company of sixty or seventy persons immediately volunteered from Far West to watch their movements and repel their attacks, and chose Elder Patten for their commander, they commenced their march about midnight, and came up to the mob very early next morning, and as soon as the brethren approached near to them, they were fired upon, when

Capt. Patten received a shot, which proved fatal, the mob after firing, ran away. Several others of the brethren were wounded at the same time, some of whom afterwards died.

Immediately on receiving the intelligence that Brother Patten was wounded, I hastened to see him. When I arrived he appeared to be in great pain, but still was glad to see me. He was conveyed about four miles, to the house of Brother Winchester, during his removal his sufferings were so excruciating, that he frequently desired us to lay him down that he might die. But being desirous to get him out of the reach of the mob, and among friends, we prevailed upon him to let us convey him there.

He lived about an hour after his arrival, and was perfectly sensible and collected until he breathed his last.— Although he had medical assistance, yet his wound was such, that there was no hope entertained of his recovery; this he was perfectly aware of. In this situation, while the shades of time were lowering, and eternity with all its realities were opening to his view, he bore a strong testimony to the truth of the work of the Lord, and the religion he had espoused.

The principles of the gospel which were so precious to him before, were honorably maintained in nature's final hour, and afforded him that support and consolation at the time of his departure, which deprived death of its sting and its horror. Speaking of those who had fallen from their steadfastness, he exclaimed, "O that they were in my situation; for I feel "I have kept the faith, I have finished my course, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown which the Lord, the righteous Judge shall give to me," &c.

Speaking to his beloved partner, who was present and who attended him in his dying moments, he said, "whatever you do else, O, do not deny the faith!" He all the while expressed a great desire to depart. I spoke to him and said, "Brother David, when you get home I want you to remember me." He immediately exclaimed "I will." At this time his sight was gone. We felt so very much attached to our beloved Brother, that we beseeched the Lord to spare his life and endeavored to exercise faith in the Lord for his recovery. Of this he was perfectly aware, and expressed a desire, that we should let him



go, as his "desire was to be with Christ which was far better." A few minutes before he died he prayed as follows: "*Father I ask thee, in the name of Jesus Christ, that thou wouldst release my spirit and receive it unto thyself:* and then said to those who surrounded his dying bed, "*Brethren, you have held me by your faith, but do give me up and let me go* I beseech you. We then committed him to God, and he soon breathed his last, and slept in Jesus without a groan.

This was the end of one who was an honor to the church and a blessing to the Saints: and whose faith and virtues and diligence in the cause of truth will be long remembered by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, and his memory will be had in remembrance by the church of Christ from generation to generation.

It was indeed a painful circumstance to be deprived of the labors of this worthy servant of Christ, and cast a gloom upon the Saints: yet the glorious and sealing testimony which he bore of his acceptance with heaven, and the truth of the gospel, was a matter of joy and satisfaction not only to his immediate friends, but to the Saints at large.

I remained in the State of Missouri until the 26th of April, A. D. 1839, it being the time appointed by revelation for the twelve to take their leave of the building spot of the house of the Lord, and take their journey across the ocean, and notwithstanding the threats of our enemies that this prophesy should fail, we assembled on the public square at Far West; assisted Elder Alpheus Cutler to relay the foundation stones, sung a hymn and united in prayer to God, that he would give us a prosperous mission.

During my stay in Missouri, I frequently went to see the brethren who were confined in prison, for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God. Many times after I had traveled forty or fifty miles to see them, I was denied the privilege by the jailor and the guards. I was with the brethren in nearly all their movements in the west, and can bear testimony to their faith and virtues, and know they were entirely innocent of the crimes alledged against them and that their persecutions were brought upon them on account of their attachment to the gospel, and to the Saints of the Lord. Although they were in the hands of their enemies who threatened

to kill them, yet I always had the testimony that they would be delivered, and come forth victorious, and stand on the earth as the servants of the Lord, when Israel should be gathered, and when the earth should reel to and fro like a drunken man, and until they had performed the great work which the God of Heaven had assigned them.

After the 26th of April A. D. 1839, I took leave of Far West, and in company with my brethren traveled to Illinois, where my family had removed some time previous, and I had the unspeakable pleasure of seeing my beloved friends, the first Presidency and others who had been delivered out of the hands of their enemies and had arrived safely in Illinois.

Soon after a general Conference of the church was held near Quincy, at which the Saints from all the regions round about assembled. It was a time which will long be remembered by the Saints, it being the first Conference held after their expulsion.

Having now given a brief account of my Journal, I will advert to some things which transpired while I was in England, which may be considered of but little importance by the world, yet will no doubt be appreciated by the Saints, who can not only mark the providence of God, as displayed in nations and kingdoms; but can observe its workings in private life, and in affairs of but apparent small moment.

Soon after our arrival in England, great many of the Aikenites embraced the gospel, which caused considerable feeling and opposition in the ministers belonging to that sect.

Having lost quite a number and seeing that many more were on the eve of being baptized, one of the ministers came to Preston and gave out that he was going to put down "Mormonism," expose the doctrines and overthrow the Book of Mormon. He made a very long oration on the subject, and was very vehement in his manner, and pounded the Book of Mormon, which he held in his hands, on the pulpit a great many times. He then exhorted the people to pray, that the Lord would drive us from their coasts; and if the Lord would not hear them in that petition, that he would smite the leaders.

The next Sunday Elder Hyde and myself being in

Preston, we went to our meeting and read the 13th chapter of Corinthians. We strongly urged upon the Saints the grace of charity, which is so highly spoken of in that chapter, and took the liberty to make some remarks on the proceedings of Mr. Aiken, the gentleman who had abused us and the Book of Mormon so very much a few days before: in return for his railing, we exhorted our people to pray that the Lord would soften his heart and open his eyes, that he might see it was "hard to kick against the pricks." The discourse had a very good effect, and that week we had the pleasure of baptizing about fifty into the kingdom of Jesus Christ, a large number of which were members of Mr. Aikens' church. Thus the Lord blessed us exceedingly, notwithstanding the railing and abuse of the priests, and all things worked together for our good and the advancement, of the cause of truth.

I cannot refrain from relating a circumstance which took place, while Brother Fielding and myself were passing through the village of Chatburn; having been observed drawing nigh to the town, the news ran from house to house, and immediately on our arrival, the noise of their looms was hushed, the people flocked to the doors to welcome us, and see us pass. The youth of the place ran to meet us, and took hold of our mantles and then of each others hands, several having hold of hands went before us singing the songs of Zion, while their parents gazed upon the scene with delight, and poured out their blessings upon our heads, and praised the God of heaven, for sending us to unfold the principles of truth, the plan of salvation to them. Such a scene, and such gratitude, I never witnessed before, surely, my heart exclaimed, "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings, thou hast perfected praise." What could have been more pleasing and delightful, than such a manifestation of gratitude to Almighty God; from those whose hearts were deemed too hard to be penetrated by the gospel, and who had been considered the most wicked and hardened people in that region of country!

In comparison to the joy I then experienced, the grandeur, pomp and glory of the kingdoms of this world shrunk into insignificance and appeared as dross, and all the honor of man, aside from the gospel, to be vain.—



The prayer of my heart at that time was: O Lord, do thou bless this people, save them from sin, and prepare them for thy celestial kingdom, and that thy servant may meet them around thy throne. And grant O Lord that I may continue to preach the gospel of Christ, which shall cause the hearts of the poor to rejoice, and the meek to increase their joy in the Lord—Which shall comfort the hearts of the widows, and cheer the soul of the orphan; and that I may be the instrument in thy hands, O Lord, of bringing them to Zion, that they may behold thy glory, and be prepared to meet the Savior when he shall descend in the clouds of heaven.

Having an appointment to preach in the village of Wrightington; while on the way I stopped at the house of Brother Amos Fielding; when I arrived he informed me that a certain family of the name of Moon, had sent a request by him, for me to visit them, that they might have the privilege of conversing with me on the subject of the gospel. Accordingly, Brother Fielding and I paid them a visit that evening. We were very kindly received by the family, and had considerable conversation on the object of my mission to that country, and the great work of the last days; they listened with attention to my statements, but at the same they appeared to be prejudiced against them, rather than otherwise. We remained in conversation until a late hour, and then returned. On our way home, Brother Fielding observed, that he thought our visit had been in vain, as the family seemed to have considerable prejudice. I answered, and said, Brother Fielding, be not faithless, but believing, we shall yet see great effects from this visit, for I know there are some of the family that have received the testimony and will shortly manifest the same. At this remark he appeared surprised.

The next morning I continued my journey to Wrightington, and after spending two or three days in that vicinity, preaching the gospel, I returned by the way of Brother Fielding's with whom I again tarried for the night.

The next morning I commenced my journey; intending to go direct to Preston; but when I got opposite the road leading to Mr. Moons, I was forcibly pressed upon by the spirit of the Lord, to call and see them again.—The impression being so strong, I could not resist, I there-

fore directed my steps to the house, not knowing what it meant.

On my arrival at the house, I knocked at the door, and Mrs. Moon from within exclaimed, "Come in! come in! you are welcome here! I and the lasses, (meaning her daughters) have just been calling on the Lord, and praying that he would send you this way." She then informed me of her state of mind since I was there before, and said, she at first rejected my testimony, and endeavored to think lightly on the things I had advanced, but on trying to pray, she said "that the heavens seemed to be like brass over her head, and it was like iron under her feet," she did not know what was the matter, "certainly the man has not bewitched me," and upon inquiry she "found it was the same with the lasses." They then began to reflect on the things I had told them, and thinking it possible that I had told them the truth, they resolved to lay the case before the Lord, and beseech him to give them a testimony concerning the things I had testified of. She then observed, that as soon as they did so, light broke in upon their minds, they were convinced that I was a messenger of salvation, and that it was the work of the Lord, and they had resolved to obey the gospel, which they did, and that evening I baptized father and mother and four of their daughters. Shortly after I visited them again and baptized the remainder of the family, consisting of thirteen souls, the youngest of whom was above twenty years of age. They received the gospel as little children, and rejoiced exceedingly in its blessings. The sons were very good musicians, and the daughters excellent singers, and when they united their instruments and their voices in the songs of Zion, the effect was truly transporting.

Before I left England, there were about thirty of that family and connexions, baptized, six of whom were ordained to be fellow laborers with us in the vineyard, and I left them rejoicing in the truths they had embraced.

Soon after my arrival in England, having been invited to preach about fifteen miles from Preston by a minister, of whom mention has been made in the former part of this Journal; while there, I dreamed one night that an elderly gentleman came to me, and rented me a lot of ground which I was anxious to cultivate.

I immediately went to work to break it up, and observ-

ing some young timber on the lot, I cut it down; there was also an old building at one corner of the lot which appeared ready to fall. I took a lever and endeavored to place it in a proper position, but all my attempts were futile, and it became worse. I then resolved to pull it down. I did so, and with the new timber built a good house on a good foundation. While thus engaged the gentleman of whom I had rented the place, came to me, and found great fault with me for destroying his young timber, &c.

This dream was fulfilled at that place, in the following manner. After Mr. Richards had let me preach in his chapel, I baptized all his young members, among whom was his daughter, and most of the members of his church. He then reflected upon himself for letting me have the privilege of his chapel, and told me that I had ruined his church, and had taken away all his young members.

I could not but feel for the old gentleman, but I had a duty to perform, which outweighed every other consideration, and I was assured, that if I sought to please man I should not be the servant of Christ.

One night, while at the village of Ribchester, I dreamed that I, in company with another person, were walking out, and we saw a very extensive field of wheat, more so than the eye could reach, such a sight I never witnessed. The wheat appeared to be perfectly ripe and ready for harvest. I was very much rejoiced at the glorious sight, which presented itself; but judge of my surprise, for when on taking some of the ears and rubbing them in my hands, I found nothing but smut, not any sound grain could I find. I marvelled exceedingly, and felt very sorrowful; and exclaimed what will the people do for grain, here is a great appearance of plenty, but there is no sound wheat.

While contemplating the subject, I looked in another direction, and saw a small field in the form of the letter L, which had the appearance of something growing in it. I immediately directed my steps to it, and found that it had been sown with wheat, some of which had got up about six inches high, other parts of the field not quite so high, and some had only just sprouted; this gave me some encouragement to expect, that at the harvest; there would be some good grain. While thus engaged, a large bull looking very fierce and angry, leaped over the fence,



ran through the field, and stamped down a large quantity of that which was just sprouted, and after doing considerable injury he leaped over the fence and ran away.

I felt very much grieved, that so much wheat should be destroyed, when there was such a prospect of scarcity; When I awoke next morning, the interpretation was given me. The large field with the great appearance of grain, so beautiful to look upon, represented the nation in which I then resided; which had a very pleasing appearance and a great show of religion, and who made great pretensions to piety and godliness, but who denied the power thereof; destitute of the principles of truth, and consequently of the gifts of the spirit.

The small field I saw clearly represented, the region of country where I was laboring, and where the word of truth had taken root, and was growing in the hearts of those who had the gospel, some places having grown a little more than others. The village I was in, was that part of the field where the bull did so much injury, for during my short visit there, most of the inhabitants were believing but as soon as I departed, a clergyman belonging to the church of England, came out and violently attacked the truth, and made a considerable noise, crying, false prophet! delusion! and after trampling on truth, and doing all the mischief he could, before I returned, he took shelter in his pulpit. However he did not destroy all the seed, for after my return I was instrumental in building up a church in that place.

---

*The following verses composed on Elder Kimball's mission have been handed to me, for publication in this journal, and it is with pleasure I give them an insertion.*

Go thou favored child of heaven,  
Chosen by divine command;  
Go and publish free salvation  
To a dark benighted land.

Go to island, sea and mountain,  
To fulfill thy great command;  
Gather out the sons of Jacob,  
To possess the promis'd land.

When thy thousands, all are gather'd;  
 And their prayers for the ascend;  
 Then the Lord will crown with blessing  
 All the labors of thy hand.

Then the song of joy and gladness,  
 Will from every land resound;  
 Then the heathen long in darkness,  
 By their Savior will be crown'd.

A. P. \* \* \* \*

Quincy, July 17, 1839.

Prepare thy servant for the work,  
 Which thou hast called him too;  
 That he may go and preach thy word,  
 To Gentile and to Jew.

When he shall tread on Eastern lands,  
 Where sin and darkness reign;  
 Where monarchs do usurp the power,  
 And prisoners groan in chains.

May he be blessed with many souls,  
 To cheer his lonely hours;  
 To comfort and console his heart,  
 When troubles press him sore.

When many days and months are past,  
 And all his labors o'er,  
 May he return with joy and peace,  
 Unto his native shore.

E. E.

Quincy, July 21st, 1839.

Go thou favored one of heaven,  
 Far from scenes endured by friends;  
 Shouldst thy path be strew'd with trials,  
 Know then our prayer for thee ascends.

Shouldst thy path be crowned with blessing,  
 Sure for thee our hearts will swell;  
 Grateful, that the Lord is with thee  
 Knowing "he doth all things well."

Shouldst thou find a plentiful harvest,  
 Turning many to the Lord,  
 Sure, thy heart will then be gladdened,  
 Conscious of a sure reward.

May thy days be crowned with blessings,  
 Till thy steps again retrace  
 Scenes, where friends have often hail'd thee,  
 Welcomed smiling on thy face.

When thy brethren crow'd around thee,  
 And new friends thy steps attend,  
 May thy thoughts roll back on Zion;  
 And thy prayers for us ascend.

When thy work on earth is finished,  
 And thy sorrows all are o'er,  
 May'st thou with the hosts of heaven;  
 Sing Gods praise for evermore.

LAURA PITKIN.

Quincy, 1839.

---

When the Elders of Israel left their brethren in England, the downfall of the work was expected and ardently desired by the enemies of truth, but in this thing they were doomed to disappointment, for under the superintendence of Elders Fielding, Richards, and Clayton, and by the blessings of the Almighty, the cause continued to move forward at a steady pace, and fresh inroads were made by these servants of God in the different villages round about, and by their diligence and faithfulness in their office, the order of the kingdom was maintained, and the commandments of heaven were strictly attended to, the Lord owned their labors, and a great work was commenced in Manchester which has kept increasing since that time.

After frequently expecting assistance from America, and anxiously looking forward to the time when Elder Kimball and others should visit them they had the pleasure of welcoming Elders Taylor, Woodruff and Turley, and shortly after, Elders Kimball, Parley P. and Orson Pratt, B. Youngs, G. A. Smith, and others, who soon commenced to labor in the field, which appeared ripe and ready for the harvest.



No sooner did these servants of the Lord begin to unfold the principles of salvation, than great success attended their preachings, and numbers flocked to the standard of the gospel, and rejoiced exceedingly in being privileged to hear and see those things which prophets and righteous men in ancient days so earnestly desired, but died without the sight.

Soon after their arrival, a Conference of the church was held in Preston, when 1671 members were represented, and considerable business, relative to the welfare of the church, was attended to.

The Elders then separated and took their departure for the different places to which they felt directed by the spirit. Elders Woodruff and G. A. Smith took their journey into Staffordshire, and in the Potteries, where the work had already commenced, continued to labor with unceasing diligence.

Sometime after they had been there, Elder Woodruff went to the county of Hereford, where he commenced proclaiming the gospel with unparralleled success: numbers flocked to be baptized, and in that region of country under the instrumentality of Elders Woodruff, Young and Richards, more than five hundred persons were baptized, among the number were several preachers of different denominations, who, cheerfully and readily embraced the gospel as soon as it was presented to them. In a letter which Elder Woodruff wrote to President Joseph Smith, he says,

“On the first of March, I left the churches in the Staffordshire Potteries in the care of Elder Turley, and traveled about eighty miles to the south part of England, where they had not heard the sound of the gospel. I called upon a wealthy farmer and delivered to him my testimony: he and all his house received it. I preached there for the first time on the fifth of April, and on the sixth, I again preached, and baptized six, four of whom were preachers. I then continued to baptize daily, and a speedy and rapid work broke out on every hand. I preached one month and five days, and baptized more than forty preachers of the different orders, and one hundred and sixty members, and established more than forty places of preaching.”

Speaking of the desire of the people to be baptized, he writes, “Before we left Frooms’ Hill, we only had to let

the people know, that we would spend a day at the pool of water, where we attended to the baptisms, and we would have business enough. After I had got ready to leave them, I had to go into the pool several times, and had to come away leaving others to be baptized." A number of churches were organized, by Elders Young, Woodruff and Richards in that region of country, and several Conferences were held, at which great love and harmony prevailed.

While the work was progressing with such rapidity in that region, the other Elders were busily engaged in sowing the seed which will eventually yield an abundant harvest. Elder Taylor had taken a stand in Liverpool, and continued to unfold the principles of salvation to all who would hearken. Much opposition and prejudice was manifest by the different religious societies, but he persevered in his work, and was instrumental in raising up a church in that place, which probably by this time amounts to more than one hundred members.

Elder Orson Pratt's labors, have been spent in Scotland, and in the city of Edinburgh, he has faithfully proclaimed the everlasting gospel, to the amazed inhabitants. It was some considerable time before he was able to overcome the prejudices of the Scotch, who are particularly attached to their creed and mode of worship, yet, by perseverance and diligence, he has been instrumental in laying the foundation of a great work in that city, and the prejudices of many have been overcome, and they have become obedient to the faith.—Large and flourishing societies are likewise found in Glasgow and Paisley, which have been raised up under the instrumentality of Elders Mulliner, Wright, and Hadlock.

In the towns of Manchester, Bolton, Preston, Macclesfield, Stockport, Birmingham and their vicinities the work continues to roll forth with great power, and large churches have sprung up all around, by the instrumentality of Elders Pratt, Kimball, Young, &c.

On the 6th of July, a Conference was held in Manchester, which was numerously attended; considerable business relative to the affairs of the church was transacted, and 2513 members were represented, besides a number of Elders, priests, teachers, &c.

Immediately after this Conference, the Elders repaired

again to their scenes of labor; great grace rested upon them, and their hearts were made glad, because the promises of Jehovah were fulfilled—his spirit rested upon them, and they saw their labors were not in vain, but that they were crowned with abundant success.

Soon after this, Elders Kimball, Woodruff and G. A. Smith, feeling it impressed on their minds to visit the metropolis of the British Empire, they accordingly went, and began to sound the alarm in that great city, one of the largest cities in the world, and have had some success, although they met with some opposition and difficulty at first, in obtaining a place to preach in; but these obstacles being once overcome, there is no doubt but a great and effectual door will be open in that place.

Nor have the labors of the servants of God been confined to England and Scotland but some of the Elders have visited Ireland, and in that land which has so long been shrouded in Popish ignorance and superstition, has the truth been proclaimed and the message obeyed.

In the Isle of Man, belonging to Great Britain, a pleasing work has commenced, and the Manx people with a liberality characteristic of them are investigating those principles, the adherence to which bring blessings from Jehovah, but which bring ridicule and reproach from the world. Elder Taylor has been instrumental in opening an effectual door in that country. At first he was opposed by several ministers, but their efforts were futile, and they made themselves a laughing stock to the community for displaying their ignorance.

From the latest accounts that have been received, a glorious harvest may be expected from Scotland, the work is gradually progressing, and superstition is giving way, and large societies have been raised up in the principle towns and cities. And while the north is giving up, the south is not keeping back, the Elders have not only made considerable progress in Yorkshire, Lancashire, Staffordshire, Cheshire, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire and Herefordshire, but they have likewise visited the city of London, the great depot of wealth, and affluence, and the largest city in the world, and to the inhabitants thereof, are they lifting up the warning voice, and proclaiming the advent of the Son of God. Nor has their message been confined to England, Scotland and Ireland, but Elders have been ordained, and have gone



to south Anstralia, and to the] East Indies, where they intend to sound the alarm, and call upon the wandering inhabitants to repent.

Soon it is expected, and probably by this time, Germany has heard the sound of the everlasting gospel. If it progresses with the same facility which it has done, we may soon expect to hear of the success of the work in the different nations of Europe, and on that continent so densely populated, we may expect thousands and tens of thousands to obey its precepts.

Nor will it stop there for "this gospel of the kingdom must be preached to all nations for a witness, and then will the end come;" consequently, the wandering sons of Ishmael on the sandy deserts of Araba, the degraded Hottentot, the jealous Chinese, and shivering Laplander, as well as the Polished European, must hear the testimony "and consider those things which had not been told them," and prepare for that glorious event which the prophets have declared must come to pass.

Such a view of the work of the last days, could hardly be realized by those who were the first to receive the gospel, while those who opposed it, prophesied its downfall long ago; but in spite of persecutions, imprisonments, and all the combined force it has had to contend against, it has kept on its course, and like the noble vessel, that has been tossed to and fro on the tempestuous ocean, and escaped the storm unhurt, cuts through the swelling surge, rides in majesty on the bosom of the mighty deep, and steers a steady course to its destined port.

From accounts which have recently been received, there was, at the last Conference held in Manchester, 3626 Saints and 383 official members. At the July Conference there was 2513 Saints and 256 official members represented, making an increase since the July Conference, of 1113 Saints, and 127 official members.

Thus "the little one has become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation;" and the word of the Lord by his servant has been fulfilled, and will continue to be, "until the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of our God and his Christ." Hasten the time "Thou King of Saints." Amen.

*The following hymn, composed by Elder Wm. Clayton, was sung by the Saints, on board the packet ship North America, while on their voyage to America, from old England.*

- 1 With darkness long we've been o'erwhelm'd,  
Upon proud Britain's land;  
But now the Lord has call'd us forth  
By his Almighty hand.

*Chorus.* Across the sea, we cheerfully go,  
Our kindred Saints to see,  
Blow gentle gale, fill every sail;  
And waft us over the sea.

- 2 God sent his servants from afar,  
This joyful news to tell;  
That we might all be saved from sin,  
And in his presence dwell.  
Across the sea, &c.

- 3 They told us that the Lord designed,  
Poor Zion to restore;  
And gather all her sons from far,  
That she might weep no more.  
Across the sea, &c.

- 4 Soon as the message we obeyed,  
And realized its power;  
To cross the mighty flood we then  
Were longing every hour.  
Across the sea, &c.

- 5 At length the time began to dawn,  
That we must hast away;  
And gather up for Zion too,  
To wait the perfect day.  
Across the sea, &c.

- 6 Sectarians breathed out their scorn,  
And said we soon should rue;  
But trusting to the word of God,  
We bade them all adieu.  
Across the sea, &c.

- 7 We gave our friends the parting hand,  
And relatives most dear;  
They poured their blessing on our heads,  
And drop'd the parting tear.  
Across the sea, &c.

- 8 But soon we hope to meet again  
With those we've loved before,  
And dwell with them on Zion's land  
In peace forever more.  
And now across the sea we go,  
Our kindred Saints to see;  
Blow gentle gale, fill every sail,  
And waft us over the sea.









724-5





UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



3 0112 039970238